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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
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Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AND OTHER DECISIONS AND CONCLUSIONS REQUIRING ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Regional annexes

Draft decision proposed by the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the outcome of the regional CCD Conferences, such as the adoption of the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Action Programme,

Emphasizing the fact that these initiatives are in clear response to the mandate of the Convention and to the requests contained in Agenda 21,

Recognizing that among the objectives of regional action programmes is the need to integrate the work that international agencies carry out, so as to facilitate the work at the national level by governmental and non-governmental organizations,

Recalling that another main objective of regional action programmes is to develop and strengthen regional coordinating mechanism, established in the regional annexes to the Convention,

Decides

(a) To welcome the agreements made by the Parties of Regional Implementation Annexes and to encourage them to strengthen and widen their national and regional efforts in support of the implementation of the Convention;

(b) To welcome also the adoption by the countries of the Latin America and the Caribbean region of the Regional Action Programme and encourages the other regions to accelerate the process of adoption of the regional action programmes;

(c) To encourage those countries which have still not done so to ratify or accede to the Convention and to engage in regional processes;

(d) To request the Executive Secretary to facilitate assistance in accordance with the provisions of article 23 (2) of the Convention, for the effective and efficient functioning of regional action programmes;

(e) To encourage the regions having Implementation Annexes to expand their efforts to collaborate and exchange experiences with other regions of the Convention in order to improve CCD interregional cooperation.